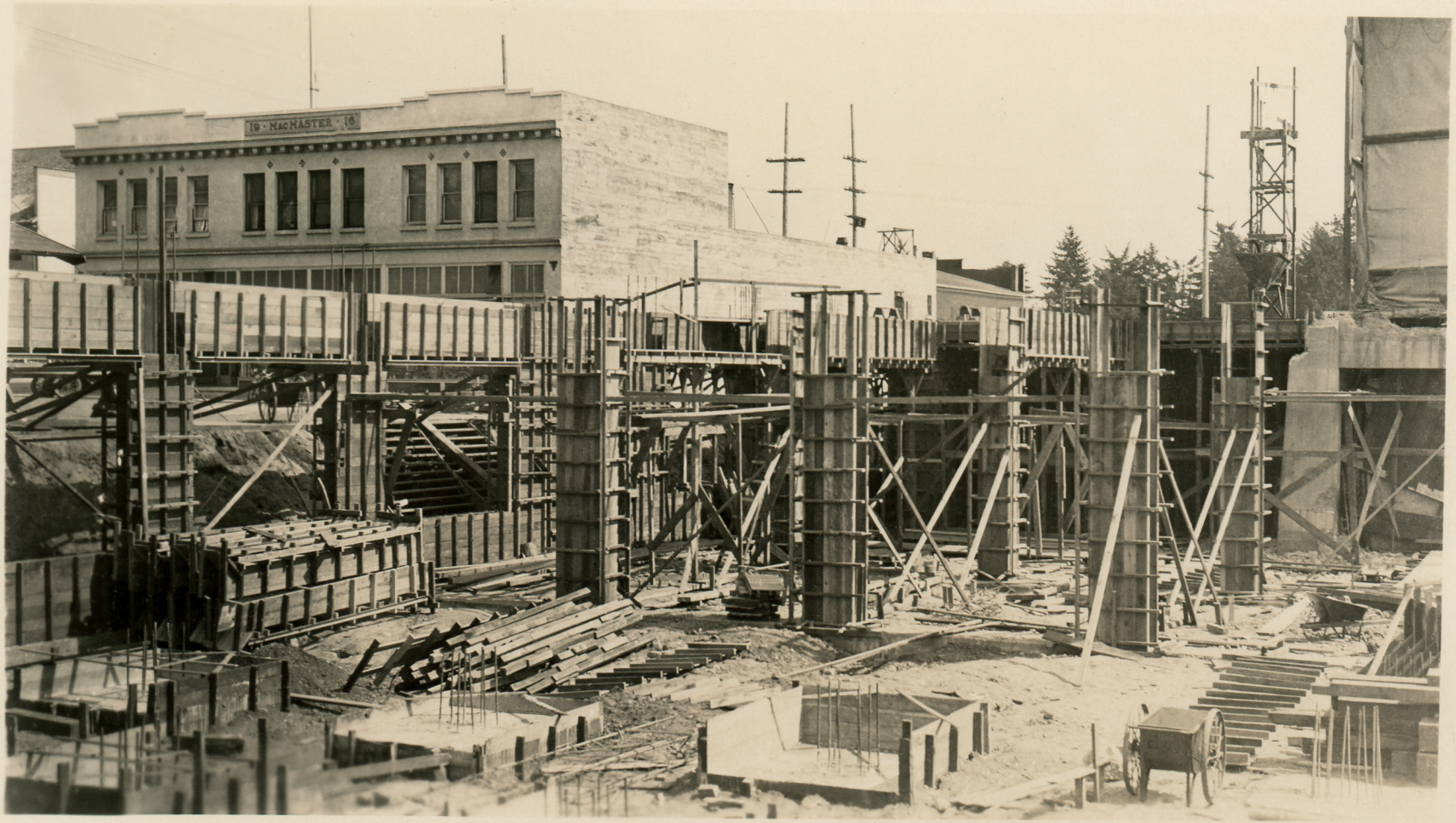

8-26-22

7-30-22

Photo 1

July 30, 1922

This opening photograph shows the Camas Mill under construction. The scene is broad and unfinished: timber, scaffolding, rail lines, rough ground, and partially built structures spread across the frame.

The image rewards close looking. What first appears to be a general construction view gradually becomes more human as individual workers begin to emerge from the framework, shadows, and construction materials. Approximately 14 mill workers can be seen throughout the site, some standing in open view and others nearly hidden within the structure itself.

The mill in this photograph is not yet the finished industrial landmark remembered by later generations. It is still a worksite, being assembled piece by piece through manual labor, heavy timber, concrete, rail access, and the expanding infrastructure of paper production.

As the first image in the sequence, this photograph sets the tone for the series: the Camas Mill in formation, captured during the physical process of construction rather than after completion.